

REMARKS

A first action Notice of Allowance issued on September 8, 2008. Entry of the following amendments directed to formal matters is respectfully requested under Rule 312.

The Abstract has been amended to better conform with U.S. practice.

The specification has been amended to include section headings. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the amendment of the specification.

Claims 11-20 have been amended to omit the recited reference characters and to indicate the proper claim dependency.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James Edward Ledbetter/

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JEL/DWW/att

James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Attorney Docket No. 073070-05148
Dickinson Wright PLLC
1875 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20006
Telephone: (202) 659-6966
Facsimile: (202) 659-1559

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A pyrotechnically-ruptureable composite structural component, intended to transmit forces between first and second structural elements, has an elongate pyrotechnic detonation separation component incorporated in the structural component for breaking the structural component and separating the first and second elements. The structural component has a first part in which the pyrotechnic separation component is incorporated and which is able to be connected to the first element, and a second part that connects to the second element. The first and second parts are rigidly assembled via their free ends, which are the opposite ends to the first and second elements respectively. The rigid assembly has a damper arranged between the free ends of the first and second elements so as to damp a detonation shock propagating to the free end of the first part when the pyrotechnic separation component is detonated.